

Interview Summary

Application No.

10/678,426

Applicant(s)

LIAO ET AL.

Examiner

Jeffrey S. Smith

Art Unit

2624

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Jeffrey S. Smith.(3) Evan Witt.(2) Samir Ahmed.

(4) ____.

Date of Interview: 18 September 2007.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☒ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.
If Yes, brief description: ____.

Claim(s) discussed: 1 and 9.

Identification of prior art discussed: Music and Barnes.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☒ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

Examiner's signature, if required

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments:

Applicant argues that taking a difference of two immediately adjacent pixels is not disclosed by Barnes, although Barnes at col. 9 lines 44-56 discloses taking a difference between a pixel $p(i,j)$ and the immediately preceding pixel $p(i-1,j)$.

Applicant argues that encoding the difference by dividing the difference is not disclosed nor suggested by Music and Barnes.

Barnes discloses encoding the actual value of the difference when the difference is greater than a threshold in figure 7. A skilled engineer, at the time of invention, would recognize that the encoding of Music can include encoding the actual value when the difference is above a threshold as taught by Barnes.

Would a skilled engineer, at the time of invention, recognize, in addition to modifying Music to perform encoding the actual value, that Music can be further modified to perform encoding by truncating the last bit of the actual value (truncating the last bit is the same as dividing by 2)? Music discloses that his device is for high definition television that operates in relatively narrow bandwidths in col. 1 lines 5-15. Music also discloses a way of reducing bandwidth by truncating the last bit of a value that was produced by taking the sum of two other values. (A value produced by taking a sum is the same as the value produced by taking a difference, because a difference is calculated by taking the sum of a positive number and a negative number.) Would a skilled engineer, faced with the problem of reducing the bandwidth of difference data, and presented with Music's disclosure of reducing bandwidth by truncating the last bit of a sum value, be able to predict that truncating the last bit of the difference value would yield the result of reducing bandwidth? In this case, the particular technique of truncating the last bit to reduce bandwidth is recognized as part of the ordinary capabilities of one skilled in the art as taught by Music. Truncating the last bit of the actual value of the difference data would predictably reduce bandwidth in the environment of television data because the exact value of the data in this environment is not of prime importance, as taught by Music.